



Non-traditional Security Threats in the 21st Century and its Socio-political Impacts on Pakistan

Fizza Ali	Lecturer, Department of Pakistan Studies, National University of Modern Languages, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan.
Saqlain Haider	Lecturer, Department of Law, University of Lahore, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan.
Mohammad Nadeem	Associate Professor, Law College, University of Peshawar, Peshawar, KP, Pakistan.

Vol. 3, No. 2 (Spring 2023)

Pages: 975 – 988

ISSN (Print): 2789-441X

ISSN (Online): 2789-4428

Key Words

Socio-political Structure, Security Threats, National Security, Pakistan, 21st Century, Water Scarcity

Corresponding Author:

Fizza Ali

Email: fizza.ali@numl.edu.pk

Abstract: National Security is a concept that is intricately linked to a state's social and political structures. It is a broad concept that is aimed at enhancing a state's power and influence. One of the most crucial aspects of national security is the protection of a nation's homeland, including its territories. A state's ability to safeguard its national interests, economic concerns and maintain its international reputation is also critical in ensuring national security. This notion of security is not limited to external threats but also includes internal challenges that could threaten the state's survival. In contrast, human security is centred on the safety and protection of individuals rather than the state's territory. It emphasizes the safety and well-being of people over national interests. Human security is achieved through development and other non-military means, as opposed to the use of arms. The goal of this strategy is to protect everyone's security in all settings and aspects of their lives, including their residences, places of employment, streets, societies, and environments.

Background

Pakistan is facing challenges, including energy shortages, internal security concerns, food shortages, and financial crises, which are directly affecting the general population. A comprehensive security paradigm is necessary to address the diverse range of threats faced by the nation. The conventional approach to state security, which has overlooked crucial areas such as healthcare, education, and physical infrastructure, is inadequate for tackling these challenges.

The social values in Pakistan are currently at a critical juncture due to insufficient governance structures and flawed policies, both internally and externally. The nation is experiencing high

levels of human insecurity and uncertainty due to poorly planned policies and a lack of democratic principles. The security of the populace and the state in South Asia, particularly in Pakistan, is a top priority for all stakeholders. However, achieving this goal requires the implementation of democratic principles and effective policymaking.

Pakistan is currently facing challenges that highlight the limitations of the traditional security approach in effectively dealing with them. Pakistan needs to develop specific responses for each of these challenges. A policy must be developed in accordance with human security patterns. (Bennett, 2009)

Promoting the adoption and efficient application of human security measures is crucial for improving the standard of living in Pakistan. Experts have identified several flaws in the country's current security paradigms, which require immediate reform. A framework should be developed to implement the human security concept in the nation, outlining clear and specific goals. These recommendations can be utilised by experts and lawmakers in Pakistan to foster the determination required for substantial changes in human security patterns. (Zia-ur-Raman, 2014)

Water Scarcity

Water scarcity threatens Pakistan's human security. Pakistan is expected to become water-scarce by 2035, but owing to the fast-changing climate, inadequate water resource management, and a lack of reservoirs, this might happen as early as 2020. Rural and urban drinking water quality threatens the lives of regular individuals. (Kugelman, 2009)

Pakistan's water shortage is caused by population growth and reservoir mismanagement. This industry employs many Pakistanis and is crucial to the country's economic growth. However, the water supply is rapidly reducing, affecting Pakistan's population, ecology, growth, and agriculture. Pakistan's water was copious in 1950, fairly abundant in 1980, water-stressed in 2010, and potentially scarce by 2035. These problems harm Pakistan's human security. (Sabir, 2014)

Water sustains life on Earth. Life needs water. Water for crops and cattle is essential to existence. Thus, in desert regions during a dry season, a lack of precipitation or water shortage often signals a national food crisis. (Sabir, 2014)

Water shortage will likely cause wars worldwide. Water is important for life and food production, and its shortage may trigger food crises. South Asia has lots of water, but poor management and lack of collaboration have caused conflicts, notably between India and

Pakistan. Pakistan has water scarcity and needs quick water management and conservation. Regional collaboration is essential to meet the nation's water demands and prevent wars. (Azam, 2014)

Food Shortage

The tragic events at the beginning of the twenty-first century have demonstrated that, despite numerous international efforts, food security remains a major problem with important implications for security. Civilizations have worked hard throughout human history to guarantee that everyone has access to enough food to live a robust and active life. Increases in food prices have disrupted many economies around the globe and increased the number of people who are malnourished. Food systems have been restructured as a result of globalisation and climate change, with significant ramifications for state and populace security. (M. M. Iqbal, 2009)

Due to the lack of priority given to the problem by policymakers, Pakistan's food security has been under constant threat in recent years. In 2008, when global food costs were at their highest, Pakistan's food prices increased by as much as 34%. The World Food Programme (WFP) estimates that in 2008, 77 million Pakistanis, or nearly half of the country's population, experienced food shortages, a 28 percent rise from the 60 million people who did so in March 2007. Low crop yields are attributed to water scarcity by both producers and government officials. Extreme water scarcity has been a problem in Pakistan, and this has contributed to a lingering energy catastrophe. Additionally, the country's food and water shortages have been made worse by Pakistani military actions against militant groups in FATA and KPK. (Amin, 2019.)

Militancy

There are significant historical and contemporary roots for the emergence of militancy and extremist forces in Pakistan. The

terrorists carry out their operations in the name of faith and use jihad to excuse their actions. Various militant groups have claimed responsibility for the deaths of over 40,000 Pakistanis. These terrorists and militants target government buildings and violate the law. Numerous internal and external factors, including political unrest, the 1979 Afghan War, military control, and subpar social and economic indicators, can be linked as the cause of this violence. Consequently, radicalism and violence are being used to impose terrorist ideology and accomplish the goals of radical groups as a result of Pakistan's poor governance, which has allowed extremist elements to thrive. (Azam, 2014)

Youth militancy and extremism are on the increase in many nations due to low educational standards, scarce economic opportunities, and unequal access to resources for social and financial advancement. Unfortunately, Pakistani culture demonstrates all of these traits, which support the rise of radicalization and militancy in the country. (Ali, 2010)

Problem Statement

Pakistan faces multiple human security challenges, including water scarcity, food shortage, and militancy. These challenges significantly impact the population's well-being and stability. This research article aims to analyse the nature, scope, and interconnectedness of threats, as well as their implications for Pakistan's security and development. The study aims to understand the reasons and impacts of the identified threats by conducting a comprehensive review of existing literature and analysing available data. Furthermore, it seeks to suggest strategies for addressing the adverse effects linked to these threats. The article examines human security challenges in Pakistan. The objective is to improve comprehension of these challenges and offer suggestions for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners. The article highlights the significance of prioritizing sustainable

development and enhancing human security within the country.

Objectives

The challenges facing Pakistan cannot be resolved through traditional security measures alone, highlighting the need for a comprehensive security policy that addresses human security issues. The present study aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To investigate how the idea of security parameters is changing, with an emphasis on human security and its importance in the globalisation era.
- To recognise and assess Pakistan's human security institutions' vulnerabilities, including those caused by militancy, food insecurity, and water scarcity.
- To examine the state's role and obligations in tackling these challenges to human security paradigms in Pakistan and to look into the factors contributing to their emergence.
- To offer policy suggestions to Pakistani decision-makers that will advance and strengthen the nation's commitment to human security.

Significance of Study

The globalization process has changed the idea of state security from linear models to multiple frameworks. Currently, threats to human safety include not only those posed by conventional weaponry and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) but also some of the most severe ones, including water scarcity, food shortages, unemployment, natural catastrophes, energy shortages, and more. In the era of globalization, these problems have the potential to have a negative effect on national security and impede the growth of any state. Therefore, this research aims to address the following points:

- The study seeks to explain how the idea of human security is changing in the context of the global situation and assess Pakistan's

standing in the global chart of levels of human security based on these ideas.

- According to the study, internal threats to Pakistan's national security pose a greater threat than external ones, and immediate action is needed to address these internal problems and find workable solutions.
- Although Pakistan claims to be an agrarian nation, its citizens are presently dealing with serious problems related to food and water scarcity. This makes the research especially pertinent to Pakistani policymakers. In order to successfully address these serious threats to human security in Pakistan, the research pinpoints their underlying causes and offers suggestions.
- Pakistan has been at the forefront of the fight against terrorism, but it has also felt the effects as militants have entered the already fractured society and taken advantage of its weaker segments. As a result, the security of regular citizens is now seriously threatened by the violent wave of militancy that has arisen in society.

Research Methodology

This section of the study outlines the research design, population, sampling technique and sample size, as well as the instrumentation and validation process. It also describes the data collection and analysis procedure that was used.

Research Design

Using qualitative and quantitative research methods in the area of social sciences, data for this study was gathered from both main and secondary sources. Books, periodicals, articles, and reference materials were examples of secondary references. The creation of a questionnaire for a survey was one of the main methods of data gathering.

Population

The population chosen for this study's survey

were the students and faculties from leading universities in Pakistan. This was done in order to gather the most accurate and representative responses for data collection, covering various regions of the country. (Higher Education Commission, Pakistan)

The participants in this research were academics, particularly faculty members and students from prestigious institutions in Pakistan. This choice was made because human security is a sophisticated and contemporary idea that might be challenging for the general public to understand completely. Additionally, because of their scholastic training and background, the faculties and students of Political Science and International Relations were chosen as respondents because they have a greater grasp of the idea. Additionally, faculties and students from different regions of the country were selected as they could represent their own areas and provide valuable insights into the study. Their responses were considered reliable and helpful in reaching conclusions and recommendations.

Sampling

10 universities were randomly selected from different regions of the country, including central and provincial areas, for the distribution of questionnaires. The targeted population consisted of students at the Master, MPhil, and PhD levels, specifically those studying Political Science and International Relations. For this research, a random selection method was used to choose a sample size of twenty-five students and five staff members from each institution.

Instrument

questionnaire was used to gather information on the different obstacles to human security in Pakistan for this research. To acquire accurate findings and understand all answers, the gathered data was analysed using Descriptive SPSS.

Theoretical Framework and Explanation

Water Scarcity and Human Security

Water Resources

In Pakistan, household wells or tube wells fed by pipeline networks, which are controlled by either towns or private housing groups, provide about 60% of the country's freshwater. The Kishanganga "Neelam" River, the biggest tributary of the Jhelum, joins the Jhelum River at Domel in Muzaffarabad. The Jhelum River has its origins in the southeast of the Kashmir Valley in India, at the slopes of the Pir Panjal. After joining it later, the Kunhar River of the Kaghan Valley and the Poonch River run into the Mangla Dam in the Mirpur region. At Trimmu in the Jhang district, the Jhelum River merges with the Chenab River after entering Punjab from the Jhelum district.

Worldwide water scarcity and Pakistan

In many regions of the globe, there are signs of a water crisis as the supply of fresh, clean drinking water is quickly decreasing. Depending on each nation's restrictions regarding the climate, conservation, and finances, the state of the drinking water scenario differs. In arranging inter-state relations, the problem of water distribution, as well as its usage and administration, has assumed a major role. Due to population development, intensifying industrialization, and urbanisation, water supplies are being depleted day by day. Water is used extensively during the production and manufacturing of various goods and commodities. For example, one litre of petroleum, one cane root vegetable, one kilogramme of paper, and one tonne of woollen material each require the consumption of 10 litres, 40 litres, 100 litres, and 600 litres of water, respectively. The fast and steady growth in population in Pakistan is the primary cause of weakening the nation. Pakistan is recognised as an agricultural nation, and the agricultural sector is the largest consumer of water worldwide,

using roughly 70% to 80% of the water accessible for human consumption. (Muhammad, 2019)

Despite using 90% of its available water for irrigation, Pakistan's farming industry only accounts for 25.9% of the nation's GDP today, down from 53% in 1947. However, only 78 MAF is being provided for the cultivation of main commodities, despite the fact that 99 MAF are required. (Choudhry, 2013)

Issue of Kalabagh Dam

The Kalabagh dam project was considered an excellent venture capable of producing 3600 MW of electricity and had undergone all necessary research, examination, financial sustainability, and environmental assessment. It was deemed practical, feasible, and advantageous by global professionals. (Arif, 2010)

The Kalabagh Dam project is not specific to the Punjab province but rather a project for all of Pakistan. While only 37% of the stored water will be used, the negative impact on the land and assets will be greater for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Political disagreements and a lack of confidence are the main causes of the lack of agreement, not technical problems. The upper riparian is worried that the building of storage reservoirs in the upper Indus River will give them unfair benefits and rob them of their fair share of water. (Dr, 2002)

Provincial Concerns over water distribution

- Sindh accuses Punjab of illegally diverting 16,000 cusecs of water from Taunsa to Guddu over a week. Sindh claims inadequate water allocation as per the 1991 agreement, leading to seawater intrusion, increased salinity in lower Sindh cultivation land, ecosystem disruption, and decline in the Indus basin mangrove forest. Two link canals, namely "Chashma-Jhelum" and "Taunsa-Punjab," were built to redirect water from the Indus River. These canals were designed to enhance the water supply from the Jhelum and Chenab rivers,

ensuring their functionality even during water scarcity in Sindh. The 1991 agreement did not include any provisions for exceptions or preferences to any province. Consequently, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Balochistan received more water than their allocated share, while Sindh received less. Sindh protested water distribution inequality among provinces. (Dr, 2002)

- The province-wide water shortage is impeding Balochistan's growth. The 3.87 maf of water allotted by the Indus Water Accord represents just 3.55 of the system's overall perennial flows. Balochistan's existing canal sizes, which only use 3.05 maf, are insufficient for use. In the remaining areas, minor perennial and non-perennial flood irrigation networks are used to supply all domestic and national agricultural needs. Balochistan, a lesser riparian of Sindh, claims that Sindh overuses the water allotted to it as a result of an inadequate irrigation canal system. Two Balochistan waterways, "Pat feeder and Kirthar," from the Guddu and Sukkur barrages, are primarily used by Sindh and release less water than their designated share. (Malik, 2020)
- The Punjab province's outdated and ineffective canal system, which is more than 150 years old and uses more than 50% of its funding before reaching the fields, has caused Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) to express grave concerns. The required changes in agricultural practice, which call for more water on a demand-based system, cannot be supported by this antiquated system. Additionally, the disregard of the Canal and Drainage Act of 1887 has resulted in an outdated drainage system that is contaminating the water. Despite these issues, there is no proposal to upgrade the irrigation system currently in place. (Khalid, 2013)

- The Punjab irrigation system is essential to the general functioning of the Indus Basin system and the agricultural economy of the province. Over 90% of Punjab's agricultural productivity comes from irrigated territory, which accounts for about 80% of Pakistan's total agricultural output. But some parts of Punjab, like Potohar, DGK, and Dera Cholistan Desert, lack water and must import water from far-off places. Additionally, Punjab has over half a million major and minor industrial units that use around 2.2 maf of water annually and employ a significant portion of Pakistan's labor force. The 117.35 maf of water that the Water Accord is based on was never achieved and is unlikely to be achieved anytime soon due to silt accumulation and decreased storage capacity of existing reservoirs. This is despite the fact that the Water Accord of 1991 allocated water usage based on genuine uses of 103.73 maf, but actual usage exceeded this amount. Due to Punjab's expanding population, urbanisation, and industrialization, the Kalabagh dam's building is of utmost importance. Improved irrigation efficiencies are required to prevent huge water waste. (Malik, 2020)

Issue of Groundwater Scarcity in Pakistan

The Indus Plain, which extends from the Himalayan Mountains to the Arabian Sea, is where the vast majority of Pakistan's groundwater resources are found. This plain, which has a dominant aquifer and is about 1600 kilometres long, is a new supply of water for crop irrigation. The aquifer can hold about 50 maf, but thousands of municipal and private tube wells have reduced that capacity to about 38 maf. (Khalid, (January-June, 2013)

Boreholes, tube wells, springs, and karezes are the most important and dependable sources of irrigation water in the province of Balochistan. An essential resource for accessing groundwater is the Karez system, an underground network

that passively controls groundwater. (Shah, 2009)

But in Balochistan province, the misuse of tube wells has caused a sharp drop in water levels and the depletion of the Karez system. In several areas of the nation, including Lahore, some of Balochistan, and heavily populated urban areas of Punjab and Sindh, groundwater over-pumping has led to falling water levels. To replenish the depleting aquifers, immediate action is needed. (Mustafa, 2008)

Food Scarcity and Human Security

Prevailing Conditions of Food Insecurity in Pakistan

Since human progress cannot be ensured by economic growth alone, food security is essential. In spite of over 5% annual economic growth in Pakistan over the past three decades, the country's population has not witnessed sufficient food security. Even though food output and availability have increased, 6 out of every 10 Pakistanis experience food insecurity and lack access to enough food. In addition, 15% of children are squandered, 3 out of 10 are underweight, and more than 4 out of every 10 children in the nation are stunted. Plus, anaemia affects almost all women in Pakistan. ((UNDP), 2015)

According to the Human Development Report of 2015, Pakistan's national poverty line ranked the country at 147 out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI), which is slightly higher than Afghanistan in South Asia. According to the most recent data on the poverty line, 18.2% of Pakistanis reside in urban regions while 35.6% are rural, totalling 29.5% of the country's population. Because of the 2007–2008 worldwide food crisis, food prices have remained incredibly unstable. The poor continue to have limited access to healthy food due to a slow economy, a lack of employment options for the growing population, a low labour force participation rate, and landlessness. (Ramay)

Agricultural Productivity in Pakistan

The Economic Survey of 1999–2000 states that agriculture is a crucial industry for supplying Pakistan's expanding populace with food. Food production grew along with the country's annual growth rate, which reached 2.1% by 2000. As a result, the agriculture sector's contribution to the overall GDP increased to 25%. Though it utilised 45% of the manual labour force, the Economic Survey for 2009–2010 revealed that the agriculture sector's contribution to GDP had dropped to 21% or 22%. Similarly to this, according to the Economic Assessment of Pakistan for 2016–2017, agriculture's contribution to GDP fell from 22% in 2010 to 19.5% in 2017. Additionally, from 23,9% in 2010 to 22,7% in 2016, the overall area that was planted had also decreased. (Javed, July–September, 2017)

The agriculture industry has performed unevenly, making varying amounts of success in various years. The proportion of the agriculture industry in the economy has fluctuated because of the imbalance between food demand and supply, and it has decreased by 22% since 2000. (Kugelman, 2009)

Accessibility of Food in Pakistan

Access to food is a major issue in Pakistan, and poverty is cited as a major element contributing to insufficient access. According to a 2013 World Bank report, poverty has been increasing in Pakistan, with 60% of the people living below the poverty line. Poverty has been exacerbated by various factors, such as the energy crisis, corrupt governance, stagnant industry, and terrorism. Due to poverty, people have limited options for food, and their choices are restricted to a few basic items, leading to a lack of diversity in their diets. Poor people are also less likely to consume fruits and meat. The situation of food access is more disappointing than food variety, with only 15 districts having moderate to low access to nutritious food. The remaining 54 districts are

categorized as having extremely low (46 districts), very low (29 districts), or no (1 district) access to food. Balochistan is the worst affected province, with almost 28 districts categorized as having extremely low access to food, while only one district has moderate access to food. (Javed, July–September, 2017)

Current Situation

Crops Productions

Pakistan is regarded as an agrarian country, with the agricultural industry accounting for 42.3% of the nation's total manual labour force and providing roughly 19.8% of GDP. The growth of the agricultural sector in Pakistan largely depends on favorable weather conditions. There exists a strong correlation between agriculture and meteorological factors such as temperature, rainfall, floods, and other weather conditions that affect economic performance, including agricultural growth, commodity prices, and overall economic progress. This information is derived from the (Pakistan Food Security Bulletin of January 2017).

Wheat Production

The main crop of Rabi, wheat, produced 25.6 million metric tonnes on 9.224 thousand hectares of land, according to the Pakistan Economic Survey of 2015–2016, which was close to the goal established by the Federal Committee on Agriculture. To encourage farmers to increase wheat cultivation and meet production goals, the previous year's wheat subsidy of Rs. 1300 per 40 kilogrammes was kept. However, as noted by the Economic Wing of the Ministry of National Food Security and Research in December 2016, there are sizable regional differences in wheat output across the nation.

More than 75% of the country's cereal production comes from Punjab, with the rest being contributed by Sindh, KPK, and Balochistan. For the year 2016–2017, the wheat crop was planted by December, and the estimated wheat harvest production was 26 million metric

tons, according to GIEWS Country Briefs of November 30, 2016. However, due to a prolonged dry spell of over 100 days, it is uncertain whether this target could be achieved, as there was an expected reduction in cultivated areas to 9.120 thousand hectares this year. (Malik, 2020)

Rice Production

Rice is the second most important staple crop in Pakistan and the largest crop in terms of cultivated area after wheat and cotton. It contributes 3.1% to the agricultural sector and 0.6% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). According to the forecast for rice production released in December 2016, the estimated yield for the 2015–16 growing season was 6.9 million metric tonnes from a cultivable area of 2800 thousand hectares, a slight decline of 1.47% from the highest yield of 7.0 million metric tonnes recorded the year before. More than 88% of the total rice cultivation was done in Punjab and Sindh provinces. The decline in rice cultivation is likely due to decreased financial returns for farmers caused by low rice prices both domestically and internationally in the previous year. This, coupled with increasing crop production costs, forced farmers to switch from rice cultivation to fodder and maize. Additionally, heavy monsoons in July 2015 also affected paddy farming. This information is derived from the (Pakistan Economic Survey of 2015–16).

Livestock Production

In Pakistan, livestock is a major component of the agricultural industry, supporting up to 35% of the income for eight million families. For many rural and marginalized communities, it is the primary source of income and has the potential to mitigate poverty and generate foreign exchange for the country. In the 2015–16 period, livestock contributed approximately 58.6% to the total agriculture sector and 11.6% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), a figure almost identical to the previous year's 11.7%. Milk and meat production are the most important outputs of livestock farming. During the 2015–16 period,

there was a 3.2% increase in milk production and a 3.7% increase in meat production compared to the previous year. These statistics are derived from the Pakistan Economic Survey of 2015-16 and the (Pakistan Food Security Bulletin.2017).

Militancy and Human Security

One of the developing nations in the globe, Pakistan, is battling the serious problem of militancy. The nation has experienced various forms of violence in various areas and over time. For instance, racial violence has occurred in Karachi and the province of Sindh, while nationalist militancy and insurgency have affected the province of Balochistan. Similar to how Southern Areas have been impacted, so has Punjab state. To disrupt society and further their goals, these militants use strategies like suicide bombings and targeted murders. (Rizvi, 2005)

Madaris → The Centre of Religious Education

The two main geographical areas where madrasas are most common are Punjab and KPK. It is well known that these madrasas attract more foreign recruits, especially from Middle Eastern and Persian Gulf nations. These madrasas provide poor families with an affordable chance by providing free education, food, clothing, and lodging. Additionally, this has not only strengthened these madrasas but also broadened the range of their audiences. It could be claimed that all facets of society harbour the same violent and bigoted values, not just in madrasas. In its 2002 report on Pakistan, the International Crisis Group (ICG) noted that although terrorists use madrasas as recruiting hubs, they only have a minor impact. (Azam, 2014)

The problem is that rather than using religion for its intended purpose of spreading and following its teachings, management in Pakistan has been using religion for their own political gain and personal benefits. (Hussain, 2009)

The Islamization policy and the Afghan Jihad under General Zia-ul-Haq's regime in Pakistan led to the emergence of sectarianism in the

country's politics, which continues to divide both the state and society. (Hussain, 2009)

Kashmir Bequest

The Kashmir war is thought to be primarily fought by the Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed militant groups. Both organisations were well-established in Pakistan before the government outlawed their operations there in 2002. They continued, though, as religious and social aid organisations. Let is an aggressive group that was founded in 1989 to provide volunteer warriors for the Afghan Jihad, claims the Council on Foreign Relations. It started taking part in the Kashmir conflict against Indian troops posted in Indian-administrated Kashmir in the 1990s. (Hussain, 2009)

Post 9/11 Decisions by General Musharraf And its Consequences

- The nature of Pakistan's aid to the US, which included "Logistic Assistance," sparked public concern.
- Pakistan cut off relations with the US as a result of widespread resistance to President Musharraf's policies.
- The stability of society and Pakistan's reputation abroad were threatened by religious, political parties and radical Islamic groups that were deeply ingrained in Pakistani politics.
- India had long attempted to paint Pakistan as a state that supports terrorism, and this choice had a negative effect on Pakistan's Kashmir policy.
- Concern over Pakistan's nuclear arsenal's security spread throughout the world.

National Internal Security Policy

The National Internal Security Policy (NISP) of Pakistan was put into effect in 2014 to guarantee the safety of the nation's borders and to deal with the problem of militancy and violence. The policy was presented to the national assembly on February 26, 2014, and consists of three components: strategic, operational, and

intelligence. These components are interconnected and aim to maintain negotiations with militants, ensure the safety of the community through a series of local and national efforts, and maintain confidentiality. The NISP has helped to address security concerns in the country. (Azam, 2014)

Data Analysis

The goal of the current research project is to identify the threats to Pakistan's human security paradigms, with a particular emphasis on three main threats: water scarcity, food scarcity, and militancy because the country's traditional security paradigm is unable to address the problems endangering the values of human security for the average citizen.

A questionnaire addressing all of the aforementioned human security challenges was created for this reason. The survey had 31 items, but 29 of them received thoughtful responses, and two were eliminated for being irrelevant.

Academia was the population of the research. Sampling was done by selecting 10 universities and students of M.Phil, Masters and PHD. 62.7% belonged to the urban areas, and most age range was 20–34. More than 70% of respondents were male, while the rest were female.

- The respondents were questioned whether Pakistan is only working to address conventional-level security threats. 64.7% (194) of respondents support the claim, while 24.7% (74) oppose it. It means Pakistan has prioritised state interests above human security.
- Respondents were asked whether they felt Pakistan faced more internal than foreign dangers. 76% (128) of respondents agree, while 16.4% (49) disagree. A tiny minority (26.7%) think Pakistan has improved its social climate, while the majority (55.7%) disagree.
- 84.7 percent of respondents believe Pakistan's political turmoil and economic disparity hinder human security. 10.3%

disagree. Thus, political instability and economic disparity are Pakistan's biggest obstacles to human security.

- 76% of respondents believe Pakistan's inability to adopt a long-term policy in all sectors since its foundation has fragmented social values. 14% of respondents disagreed.
- Most respondents (79%) believe that Pakistan's lack of social cohesiveness and coordination is due to a lack of national leadership, particularly in its early years. Social harmony and cooperation need strong national leadership.
- 59.6% of respondents believe Pakistan's involved departments have failed to handle militancy, food, and water shortages. Only 28.7% disagree. Thus, the departments' administration failed to meet their institutional responsibilities to handle these issues swiftly and efficiently.
- Most respondents (83.3%) believe Pakistan has not handled food and water shortages in accordance with its fast population increase. Pakistan must address these issues.
- 86.3% of respondents blame Pakistan's food and water shortages on administrative mismanagement. Because responsible institutions haven't taken enough responsibility, the issue has worsened.
- 60% of respondents believe Pakistan's food shortage is caused by a lack of irrigation water; 17% disagree. 13% were unconvinced.
- Most (70.4%) agreed that migration and urbanisation had worsened Pakistan's food and water shortage. Few disagreed or were unsure.
- Pakistan's food and water shortages have raised societal susceptibility to malnutrition and other health conditions, according to 79.6% of respondents.
- Most respondents (69.3%) believe Pakistan's multi-ethnic and multi-dimensional society contributes to its water and food shortages. 16.7% disapprove.

- Only 14.7% disagree that natural catastrophes worsen Pakistan's water and food problems. 12.3% were unsure.
- Most respondents say past political governments should have emphasised fixing Pakistan's water and food issues, but few think they did.
- 73.7% of respondents blame Indian supremacy over Pakistani rivers that originate in Kashmir for Pakistan's water and food challenges, while 17.3% disagree.
- Most respondents (79.6%) think that militancy threatens Pakistani human security, with 10.7% disagreeing. 9.7% were unsure.
- 78.4% of interviewees believe socio-political and socio-economic difficulties are the main causes of terrorism in Pakistan.
- Most respondents believe ethnocultural diversity and ethno-sectarian conflict have worsened Pakistan's militancy.
- International terrorism has increased terrorist activity in Pakistan, according to 71.4% of respondents.
- Most respondents agree that sectarian and ethnic militancy is the most dangerous in Pakistan's major cities and that domestic abuse and criminality contribute to its increase. 74% of respondents believe that India and Afghanistan's involvement in Pakistan's militancy is a contributing element.

Results

The evidence shows that Pakistan has emphasised state prosperity above human security. Water shortages, food shortages, and violence are the biggest dangers to human security. Water scarcity and food shortages caused by the nation's inability to create appropriate water resources have led to governmental and societal hostility and exploitation by militant and outside groups. International terrorism, domestic violence, political unrest, economic inequality, malnutrition and health vulnerabilities, natural

disasters, ethno-sectarian violence, and outside interference can destabilise and fracture the nation when governments and institutions fail to address fundamental human security needs. Academically responsible academics from rural and urban locations answered the questionnaire, producing a nationwide sample.

Food, water, and militancy threaten Pakistan's human security. These challenges stem from prioritising old security practices above human security ideals. Pakistan's biggest dangers are internal. Pakistan's political instability and economic inequities impair human security, and poor leadership has hampered long-term policymaking. Water, food, and law enforcement have failed. Food shortages and hunger are connected to population expansion and water scarcity. Pakistan's multi-ethnic culture has politicised water issues and slowed reservoir development. Since several of Pakistan's important rivers originate in Indian-occupied Kashmir, India has subversively caused water and food shortages. Due to Pakistan's ethnocultural variety, sociopolitical inequities, and economic problems, militancy threatens human security. Outside influences have escalated violence. A comprehensive human security strategy is needed to address these hurdles.

Conclusion

Pakistan's expanding population, industry, and urbanisation are causing water shortages. About 60% of Pakistan's freshwater comes from pipeline-fed homes and tube wells. Despite only accounting for 25.9% of GDP, the agriculture sector consumes 70% to 80% of the nation's water. The Kalabagh dam project might produce 3600 MW of energy to solve Pakistan's water shortage. Political issues and concerns over water allocation across regions make the project difficult. Sindh claims Punjab stole water, causing saltwater incursion, salinity, and ecological deterioration. Balochistan's canals are too small to suit agricultural demands, causing

water scarcity. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has worries about changing agricultural practices that need more water on a demand-based basis due to Punjab's old canal infrastructure. In conclusion, overcoming the water shortage in Pakistan needs improving water management, investing in modern infrastructure, and establishing fair distribution policies across provinces.

Despite approximately 5% yearly economic growth in Pakistan over the previous three decades, the population has not experienced adequate food security. 60% of Pakistanis lack food, and children and women are malnourished and anaemic. Poverty and the farm sector's declining GDP contribute to food insecurity. 15 districts have moderate to poor access to healthy food, while 54 have very low or no access. Balochistan, the worst-affected province, has roughly 28 districts with severely limited food availability. Pakistan's agriculture economy relies on weather and regional wheat yield. Pakistan's second-largest crop after wheat and cotton is rice.

Pakistan's long-running militancy problem is complicated. Political instability, sectarianism, Kashmir, and religious manipulation affect it. Militant organisations have utilised madrasas in Punjab and KPK to recruit. The 2014 National Internal Security Policy addressed militancy and violence. Local and national initiatives and discreet conversations with terrorists strive to protect the neighbourhood. Pakistan faces militancy despite the NISP's security improvements. Pakistan must keep working to solve militancy's core causes. This entails tackling political instability, religious tolerance, and socioeconomic inequities that radicalise people. To ensure long-term peace and security, civil society and religious leaders must be involved.

Recommendations/Discussion

There is an urgent need to offer suggestions that can assist in resolving these issues in order to guarantee that Pakistan is free from all forms of

human security dangers. Raising social awareness is one method to deal with this problem and to educate people; human security should be included as a discipline in all institutions at all levels. At the local level, distinct seminars and social events should be planned, and the people should be reached through print and electronic media.

The government should develop comprehensive indigenous policies to tackle this complex issue. The country needs educated, energetic, sagacious, and statesmanlike leaders capable of improving the living standards of the general population. The government should prioritize the institutional reforms needed to maintain a balance of power in the country and good governance should be implemented to address the social, political, and institutional dynamics that affect governance. A thorough and collaborative strategy that considers both the supply and demand of food and water is necessary to address the problem of scarcity. It is also necessary to address the issue of insecurity in FATA by developing Standing Order Procedures (SOP) that are functional at all levels.

The government should take significant action to address the challenges posed by militancy in Pakistan, including modifying educational practices, combating sectarian intolerance, incorporating local cultures, and making investments in networks and infrastructure that will create jobs and link remote regions of Pakistan with other regions of the country. To address the accumulating threats to Pakistani society's human security paradigms, a comprehensive strategy that incorporates the use of force, diplomatic negotiations, and social advancement of the general populace should be implemented.

Long-term attempts should be made to construct new dams and identify alternate sources of energy and water. Prioritizing national interest is essential, and it is vital to address the food and water shortage issues not only as a security gap but also as a strategy to move the

nation towards fostering community cooperation, environmental sustainability, and national development. In order to address Pakistan's challenges with human security, maintaining a balance of power, ensuring effective governance, and placing the needs of the general populace first are necessary.

References

- Adnam, M., Din, I., Khan, A. A., & Jehan, S. (2017). Temperature Trend Analysis using Non-linear Regression of Kohat, Northwestern Pakistan. *Pakistan Journal of Meteorology*, 14(27), 85–93.
- Ali, A. (2010). Militancy and socioeconomic problems: a case study of Pakistan. *Reflections*, 4, 1–5.
- Amin, M., Khan, A. A., Perveen, A., Rauf, Z., Hassan, S. S., Goheer, M. A., & Ijaz, M. (2019). Drought risk assessment: A case study in Punjab, Pakistan. *Sarhad Journal of Agriculture*, 35(1). <https://doi.org/10.17582/journal.sja/2019/35.1.234.243>
- Arif, G. K. M. (2010). *Estranged Neighbors: India-Pakistan, 1947–2010* (First ed.). Islamabad-Lahore-Karachi (Pakistan): Dost Publications.
- Aza, M. (2014). Genesis of Militancy in Pakistan: <http://www.ipripak.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Article-no.-6-Maryam.pdf>
- Bennett, J. (2009). *Pakistan: Haunting Shadows of Human Security*. Dhaka: The University Press Ltd.
- Choudhry, M., Dr. Siddique, M. & Sufi, A. B. (2013). Role of Water Resources Development in the Economy of Pakistan. Pakistan Engineering Congress, paper 658, 70th Annual Session Proceedings. www.pecongress.org.pk/images/upload/books/Paper658.pdf
- Hussain, T. (2009). Post-1979 Pakistan: What Went Wrong? in —*The Islamization of Pakistan 1979–2009 A Special Edition of Viewpoint*. Washington DC: The Middle East Institute. <http://www.mei.edu/Portals/0/Publications/Pakistan%201979–2009.pdf>
- Iqbal, M. M., Goheer, M. A., & Khan, A. M. (2009). Climate Change Aspersions on Food Security in Pakistan. *Science Vision*. 15(1). 15–23.
- Javed, A. (July–September, 2017). Changing Scenarios in Agriculture Sector: Time to Act. *Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Research and News Bulletin*. 24(3).
- Khalid, I. & Begum, I. (2013). Hydro Politics in Pakistan: Perceptions and Misperceptions. *A Research Journal of South Asian Studies*, (28)1, 7–23. <http://journals.pu.edu.pk/journals/index.php/IJSAS/article/viewFile/2864/1110>
- Kugelman, H. & Hathaway, R. M. (2009). *Running on Empty: Pakistan's Water Crisis*. Washington, D.C: Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.
- Malik, B. A. (2020). *Save Water Save Pakistan* (second ed.). Islamabad-Lahore-Karachi(Pakistan): Ferozsons.
- Mustafa, D., & Qazi, M. U. (2008). Karez versus tubewell irrigation: the comparative social acceptability and practicality of sustainable groundwater development in Balochistan, Pakistan. *Contemporary South Asia*, 16(2), 171–195. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09584930701733514>
- Pakistan Economic Survey of 2015–16 https://www.finance.gov.pk/survey/chapters_16/highlights_2015_16.pdf
- Pakistan Food Security Bulletin 2017. <https://www.wfp.org/publications/pakistan-food-security-bulletins-2015-2017>
- Pakistan Food Security Bulletin 2017. <https://www.wfp.org/publications/pakistan-food-security-bulletins-2017>
- Ramay, S. A. (2011). State of agriculture and food security in Pakistan. *Policy Options to Achieve Food Security in South Asia*, 106–136. <https://doi.org/10.1017/upo9788175969223.006>
- Sabir, M. (2014). Water as an Economic Complexity in Pakistan. *A Research Journal of South Asian Studies*, 27(2).
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). (2015). *Climate Public Expenditure and*

Institutional Review (CPEIR), Pakistan.
Islamabad

Zia-ur-Reman, M. Dr., Nazeer, S. & Saif-ur-Rehman, M. Dr. (2014). Conceptually Analyzing and Proposing a New Dynamic

Framework for Human Security. *Margalla Papers*, XVIII(I), 127-152.
<https://margallapapers.ndu.edu.pk/site/issue/download/9/175>